

### **Amy Sierra Van Atten, USA**



Amy Van Atten is the Operations Coordinator for the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program (NEFOP) at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole Massachusetts. Amy has worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service since 1991. She has a Wildlife Biology and Forestry Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts and a Master of Science degree from the University of Maine Orono, in Wildlife Management. For several years, Amy worked at the Alaska Regional Office and managed the Alaska Marine Mammal Observer Program, conducting surveys and observations of bycatch in the salmon gillnet fisheries in Kodiak and Southeast Alaska. Amy has also worked on marine mammal surveys in Antarctica for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. In her current position, Amy manages the NEFOP and the Industry-Funded Scallop Observer Program, which covers commercial fisheries from Maine through North Carolina on the East Coast of the United States. Amy is a member of the National Observer Program Advisory Team and is working with the Electronic Monitoring Committee. Amy is actively involved with several Take Reduction Teams to assess and minimize marine mammal bycatch in commercial fisheries. Amy follows upcoming management and regulatory changes that may affect fisheries in the Northeast. Among her current projects, she is working with the New England Fishery Management Council's Herring Plan Development Team on a new amendment to the Herring Plan. Amy is also the Outreach Coordinator, developing outreach materials and involving the program in industry, science, and maritime events.

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